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cond.

hinges 6 through 8, as noted. As can be seen in FIG. 1, the structure of the cage is such that it can be arranged in an upright and erect position, when unfolded, with a pair of side panels, and can be located around the splice boxes SB, down in the manhole, in order to provide the type of security and sheltering as previously explained. See FIG. 4.

At page 7, before the final paragraph, please insert the following new paragraph-

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Referring to FIG. 8, there is shown an angle according to the present invention.

IN THE CLAIMS:

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not closed

1. (Amended) A secure cage for a cable securing structure, for providing a dedicated space for locating of specific cables for use for signal transmission in the telecommunications field, said cage being formed of a series of panels, capable of being erected into its space providing structure, or folded and collapsed as during non-use for providing direct access to the cables for servicing, a series of foldable panels, said panels being folded into an erected polygonal shape to provide security for any cables located therein, said panels for the cage forming a pair of side panels, and at least two front panels pivotally attached to one another, the side panels capable of securing to the approximate structure, the front panels capable of being locked into a protective configuration, and said front panels in conjunction with the side panels fold back to provide access to any cables maintained therein during servicing.

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3. (Amended) The secure cage of Claim 1 wherein said cage being provided within a manhole structure, one of said side panels being permanently affixed to a side of the manhole structure, and another of said side panels being normally fastened and locked to the side of the

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manhole structure, but capable of being opened, to provide for folding of the side panels and front panels into a non-usable position to provide access to the cables during servicing.

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6. (Amended) The secure cage of Claim 5 wherein the front panels have sides, said front panels, along one side, being hinged together, and said front panels at their other sides being hinged to the side panels for the said cage, whereby all of said panels may be folded into a collapsed and substantially flattened condition when the cage is opened during servicing of the cables, but can be erected and locked into closure to provide protection and securement for any cables installed therein.

7. (Amended) The secure cage of Claim 6 wherein the panels of the secure cage are formed of a lightweight material.

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12. (Amended) The secure cage of Claim 1, wherein an edge of each side panel that secures to a side of the manhole structure includes an angle, and each angle capable of fastening to the side of the manhole.

Please add new claims 14-19.

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14. A secure cage for the protection of cables in a manhole structure comprising:

a pair of side panels, each having a defined thickness;

at least two front panels hingedly attached to one another and each hingedly attached to one of the side panels and each having a defined thickness;

at least one attachment device attached to each side panel opposite its connection to the front panel for attachment to the manhole structure;

at least one pivotal latch attached to the front panels adjacent their attachment to one another wherein the pivotal latch may be latched when the front panels have been pivoted into

place to form substantially a single plane and the pivotal latch, when latched, provides retention of the two panels in alignment in ~~substantially~~ the single plane; and

wherein the ~~side panels and the front panels are adapted to collapse~~ ^{pair of} to form a substantially flat structure having a thickness substantially equal to the sum of the thicknesses of each of the ~~side panels and front panels~~ ^{at least two} and an outer dimension substantially equal to the largest of the front and side panels to facilitate ~~insertion~~ ^{ing} into the manhole structure.

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15. The secure cage of claim 14 further wherein the at least one attachment device comprises at least one hasp device.

16. The secure cage of claim 14 wherein the at least one attachment device comprises at least one angle.

17. The secure cage of claim 14 wherein the front and side panels are hingedly attached by hinges.

18. The secure cage of claim 14 wherein the front and side panels are hingedly attached by a flexible member.

19. The secure cage of claim 14 wherein at least one of the front panels and side panels comprises perforations for providing ventilation.

REMARKS

The Examiner has rejected claim 1 as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,070,372 to Norman *et al.* ("Norman") under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), claims 2, 3, 12 and 13 as obvious over Norman in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,292,556 to Laetsch ("Laetsch"), and claims 4-11 as obvious over Norman in view of Laetsch in further view of U.S. Patent No. 4,880,210 to Cucksey ("Cucksey"). The Examiner has also rejected claims 1, 3 and 6 and the claims that depend from those claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶ 2, objected to claims 7 and 12, objected to the